

# NUNAVUT PLANNING COMMISSION STATISTICAL ANNUAL REPORT ON THE ACCESS OF THE INFORMATION ACT

**APRIL 1, 2019 – MARCH 31, 2020** 

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#### 1. Introduction

The following Annual Report outlines the Nunavut Planning Commission's (the NPC) organizational structure, procedural updates and activities as they relate to the *administration of the Access to Information Act* (the Act) for the 2019-20 reporting period. This report has been prepared and tabled in Parliament in accordance with section 72 of the Act.

The purpose of the *Access to Information Act* is to ensure the protection and responsible usage of personal information held by Canadian government institutions. The Act "gives Canadian citizens, permanent residents, and individuals present in Canada the right to access their personal information held by government institutions that are subject to the Act, and protects that information against unauthorized collection, use, retention and disclosure" and as a result provides individuals with greater control over their personal information held by government institutions in Canada.

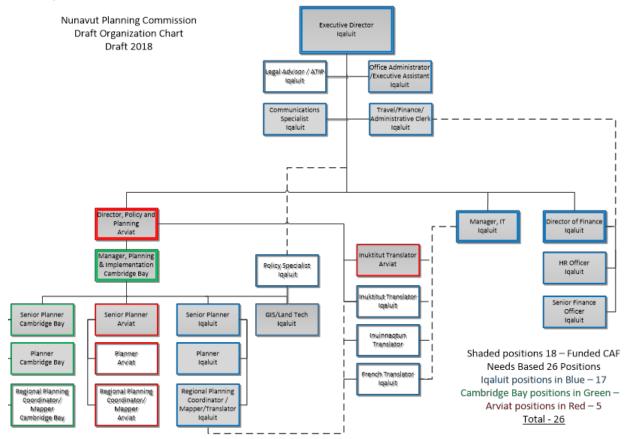
The NPC is an institution of public government created by the *Nunavut Agreement* to assess the potential impacts of proposed development in the Nunavut Settlement Area prior to approval of the required project authorizations. Using both traditional knowledge and recognized scientific methods, the NPC assesses the potential biophysical and socio-economic impact of proposals and will make recommendations and decisions about which projects may proceed. The Board may also establish monitoring programs for projects that have been assessed and approved to proceed. The NPC's mandate and authority comes from Article 12 of the *Nunavut Agreement* and the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*.

The NPC is committed to ensuring the privacy of the personal information it collects through its processes. Though the NPC collects a relatively small amount of personal information and has yet to receive a Personal Information Request, it maintains a strong set of policies and procedures to ensure its adherence to the Act

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>https://www.canada.ca/en/treasury-board-secretariat/services/access-information-privacy.html

#### 2. Organizational Structure



The NPC is a relatively small organization with 18 staff members reporting to a Board of Directors. It is organized into four (5) departments with the Executive Department overseeing the Finance and Administration, IT, Planning & Policy, and Translation Departments.

There are two (2) staff members directly responsible for ensuring adherence to the *Access to Information Act* (the Act); the Executive Director and the Legal Advisor/ATIP Officer (the ATIP Officer).

The role of the Executive Director, as it pertains to the Act, is to ensure the NPC is adhering to its responsibilities under the Act and to provide final approval of all responses to Personal Information (PI) requests. The Executive Director also manages any consultations from other government institutions and agencies relating to the Act.

The ATIP Officer's responsibilities relating to the Act include coordinating responses on behalf of the NPC's Chairperson as Head of the Institution (Access to Information Act, Heads of Government Institutions Designation Order SI/83-113) as well as the NPC's Executive Director to ensure that the Institution's responsibilities under the Access to Information Act are met. The ATIP Officer reports directly to the Executive Director.

The activities of the NPC's ATIP Office mainly consist of:

- processing requests for information submitted under the Access to Information Act;
- promoting awareness to ensure NPC Staff understand their roles and responsibilities.
- preparing annual reports to Parliament;
- monitoring compliance in regard to the Act;
- coordinating the resolution of any complaints against the NPC which have been submitted to the Information Commissioner under the *Access to Information Act*;
- supporting the NPC in meeting its commitments to openness and transparency through the release of information via informal avenues;
- handles informal requests for Access to Information. An informal request is a request for information that is not made or processed under the Act. Fees cannot be charged under the Act and there are no deadlines for responding to these requests. In addition, the requestor has no statutory right of complaint;

The ATIP Officer is the sole person to operate on behalf of the ATIP Office. The ATIP Officer may liaise with NPC Staff for the purpose of identification and classification of certain records of information.

#### 3. Delegation Order

The powers and responsibilities of the NPC's Executive Director under the *Access to Information Act* (the Act) have not been formally delegated using a delegation order. However, as stated above, ATIP Officer's job description includes duties related to the Act.

#### 4. Interpretation of the Statistical Report, 2019-20

The NPC submitted its 2019-20 Statistical Report to the Treasury Board Secretariat (TBS) by email on August 21, 2020. As indicated in the report, the NPC received two Personal Information (PI) requests during the reporting period.

This relatively small number of PI requests is understandable, as the NPC collects a relatively small amount of private personal information. This is partly due to efforts taken by the NPC to limit the personal information it collects to only what is required for operations, in adherence to the *Privacy Act*, and because a significant portion of the NPC's processes are highly public in nature. For example, personal opinions expressed by members of the public during the NPC's review processes are given with the full understanding that they are being made in a public forum and will be made available in public documents such as comment forms and hearing transcripts. Most of the private personal information that the NPC does manage is collected in the service of staffing and human resources, such as resumes, identification, or financial information required for payment. The NPC maintains a strong set of policies and procedures to safeguard this type of information.

The cost indicated in the statistical report (\$29,804) expresses one tenth (0.15) of the salary of the Legal Advisor/ATIP. This cost relates to this position's duties relating to both the *Access to Information Act* and the *Privacy Act*. This figure does not include the salaries of staff members who may be involved in internal consultations relating to ATIP requests.

The dispositions and completion time regarding the two PI requests are 30 days, and no: fee charged, exemptions, exclusions, extensions or consultations.

A copy of the NPC's 2019-20 statistical report can be found in Annex A.

#### 5. Training and Awareness

No formal training was provided by the ATIP Office in regard to Access to Information during the reporting period. New employees as part of their orientation package receive training within their department on an as needed basis.

#### 6. Policies, Guidelines, Procedures and Initiatives

During the 2019-20 reporting period, the NPC began the process of onboarding to the ATIP Online Request Service (AORS). The AORS is an online platform that the public can use to submit ATIP requests to a wide range of Federal Government institutions with the purpose of streamlining the ATIP submission process. The NPC is supportive of the AORS initiative as it promises to provide an efficient system for users and increase transparency across a wide range of institutions.

To ensure the system remains streamlined, the NPC will be phasing out its online ATIP tool in 2019-20. The NPC, however, will maintain its current Information Requests page on its website for reporting purposes and will provide a link to the AORS website for users. Additionally, the NPC plans to use this page to outline alternative methods of accessing information held by the NPC in an effort to reduce the number of ATIP requests that pertain to documents that are already publicly available.

No other changes were made to the NPC's policies, guidelines, procedures and initiatives as they relate to the *Privacy Act* during the 2019-20 reporting period.

#### 7. Summary of Key Issues and Actions Taken on Complaints or Audits

The NPC received no complaints, audits or investigations during the reporting period.

#### 8. Monitoring Compliance

In the event of a Personal Information (PI) request, the NPC would ensure its adherence to the timelines required by the *Privacy Act* by maintaining regular communication between the ATIP Officer and the Executive Director.

Should you have any questions or require clarification on specific points within this report, please contact the undersigned directly at (867) 979-3443 or via email at <a href="mailto:sehaloak@nunavut.ca">sehaloak@nunavut.ca</a>.

Sincerely,

<original signed by :>

Sharon Ehaloak Executive Director Nunavut Planning Commission

#### **ANNEX A**

## Statistical Report on the Access to Information Act

Name of

institution: Nunavut Planning Commission

**Reporting period:** 2019-04-01 to 2020-03-31

#### Section 1: Requests Under the Access to Information Act

#### 1.1 Number of requests

	Number of Requests
Received during reporting period	2
Outstanding from previous reporting period	0
Total	2
Closed during reporting period	2
Carried over to next reporting period	0

#### 1.2 Sources of requests

Source	Number of Requests
Media	0
Academia	0
Business (private sector)	0
Organization	0
Public	2
Decline to Identify	0
Total	2

#### 1.3 Informal requests

Completion Time								
1 to 15 Days	16 to 30 Days	31 to 60 Days	61 to 120 Days	121 to 180 Days	181 to 365 Days	More Than 365 Days	Total	
0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	

## Section 2: Decline to act on vexatious, made in bad faith or abuse of right requests

	Number of Requests
Outstanding from previous reporting period	0
Sent during reporting period	0
Total	0
Approved by the Information Commissioner during reporting period	0
Declined by the Information Commissioner during reporting period	0
Carried over to next reporting period	0

#### 3.1 Disposition and completion time

	Completion Time								
Disposition of Requests	1 to 15 Days	16 to 30 Days	31 to 60 Days	61 to 120 Days	121 to 180 Days	181 to 365 Days	More Than 365 Days	Total	
All disclosed	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	
Disclosed in part	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
All exempted	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
All excluded	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
No records exist	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Request transferred	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Request abandoned	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Neither confirmed nor denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Decline to act with the approval of the Information Commisioner	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	

#### 3.2 Exemptions

Section	Number of Requests	Section	Number of Requests	Section	Number of Requests	Section	Number of Requests
13(1)(a)	0	16(2)	0	18(a)	0	20.1	0
13(1)(b)	0	16(2)(a)	0	18(b)	0	20.2	0
13(1)(c)	0	16(2)(b)	0	18(c)	0	20.4	0
13(1)(d)	0	16(2)(c)	0	18(d)	0	21(1)(a)	0
13(1)(e)	0	16(3)	0	18.1(1)(a)	0	21(1)(b)	0
14	0	16.1(1)(a)	0	18.1(1)(b)	0	21(1)(c)	0
14(a)	0	16.1(1)(b)	0	18.1(1)(c)	0	21(1)(d)	0
14(b)	0	16.1(1)(c)	0	18.1(1)(d)	0	22	0
15(1)	0	16.1(1)(d)	0	19(1)	0	22.1(1)	0
15(1) - I.A.*	0	16.2(1)	0	20(1)(a)	0	23	0
15(1) - Def.*	0	16.3	0	20(1)(b)	0	23.1	0
15(1) - S.A.*	0	16.31	0	20(1)(b.1)	0	24(1)	0
16(1)(a)(i)	0	16.4(1)(a)	0	20(1)(c)	0	26	0
16(1)(a)(ii)	0	16.4(1)(b)	0	20(1)(d)	0		
16(1)(a)(iii)	0	16.5	0				
16(1)(b)	0	16.6	0				
16(1)(c)	0	17	0				
16(1)(d)	0						

#### 3.3 Exclusions

Section	Number of Requests	Section	Number of Requests	Section	Number of Requests
68(a)	0	69(1)	0	69(1)(g) re (a)	0
68(b)	0	69(1)(a)	0	69(1)(g) re (b)	0
68(c)	0	69(1)(b)	0	69(1)(g) re (c)	0
68.1	0	69(1)(c)	0	69(1)(g) re (d)	0
68.2(a)	0	69(1)(d)	0	69(1)(g) re (e)	0
68.2(b)	0	69(1)(e)	0	69(1)(g) re (f)	0
	•	69(1)(f)	0	69.1(1)	0

#### 3.4 Format of information released

Paper	Electronic	Other
0	2	0

#### 3.5 Complexity

#### 3.5.1 Relevant pages processed and disclosed

Number of Pages Processed	Number of Pages Disclosed	Number of Requests
0	1045	2

#### 3.5.2 Relevant pages processed and disclosed by size of requests

	Pages Pr	Less Than 100 Pages Processed		101-500 Pages Processed Pages Processed Processed Processed Processed Processed Processed Processed				ges		
Disposition	Number of Request s	Pages Disclos ed	Numbe r of Reque sts	Pages Disclose d	Number of Requests	Pages Disclose d	Number of Request s	Pages Disclose d	Number of Reques ts	Pages Disclos ed
All disclosed	0	0	0	0	2	1045	0	0	0	0
Disclosed in part	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All exempted	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All excluded	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Request abandoned	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Neither confirmed nor denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	2	1045	0	0	0	0

#### 3.5.3 Other complexities

Disposition	Consultation Required	Assessment of Fees	Legal Advice Sought	Other	Total
All disclosed	0	0	0	0	0
Disclosed in part	0	0	0	0	0
All exempted	0	0	0	0	0
All excluded	0	0	0	0	0
Request abandoned	0	0	0	0	0
Neither confirmed nor denied	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0

#### 3.6 Closed requests

#### 3.6.1 Number of requests closed within legislated timelines

	Requests closed within legislated timelines
Number of requests closed within legislated timelines	2
Percentage of requests closed within legislated timelines (%)	100

#### 3.7 Deemed refusals

#### 3.7.1 Reasons for not meeting legislated timelines

		Principal Reason					
Number of Requests Closed Past the Legislated Timelines	Interference with Operations / Workload	External Consultation	Internal Consultation	Other			
0	0	0	0	0			

#### 3.7.2 Requests closed beyond legislated timelines (including any extension taken)

Number of Days Past Legislated Timelines	Number of Requests Past Legislated Timeline Where No Extension Was Taken	Number of Requests Past Legislated Timeline Where an Extension Was Taken	Total
1 to 15 days	0	0	0
16 to 30 days	0	0	0
31 to 60 days	0	0	0
61 to 120 days	0	0	0
121 to 180 days	0	0	0
181 to 365 days	0	0	0
More than 365 days	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

#### 3.8 Requests for translation

Translation Requests	Accepted	Refused	Total
English to French	0	0	0
French to English	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

#### Section 4: Extensions

# 4.1 Reasons for extensions and disposition of requests

	9(1)(a)	9(1)(b) C		
Disposition of Requests Where an Extension Was Taken	Interference With Operations	Section 69	Other	<b>9(1)(c)</b> Third-Party Notice
All disclosed	0	0	0	0
Disclosed in part	0	0	0	0
All exempted	0	0	0	0
All excluded	0	0	0	0
No records exist	0	0	0	0
Request abandoned	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0

#### 4.2 Length of extensions

	9(1)(a)	9(1)(b) C	9(1)(b) Consultation			
Length of Extensions	Interference With Operations	Section 69	Other	<b>9(1)(c)</b> Third-Party Notice		
30 days or less	0	0	0	0		
31 to 60 days	0	0	0	0		
61 to 120 days	0	0	0	0		
121 to 180 days	0	0	0	0		
181 to 365 days	0	0	0	0		
365 days or more	0	0	0	0		
Total	0	0	0	0		

#### Section 5: Fees

	Fee C	collected	Fee Waived or Refunded		
Fee Type	Number of Requests	Amount	Number of Requests	Amount	
Application	0	\$0	0	\$0	
Other fees	0	\$0	0	\$0	
Total	0	\$0	0	\$0	

# 6.1 Consultations received from other Government of Canada institutions and organizations

Consultations	Other Government of Canada Institutions	Number of Pages to Review	Other Organizations	Number of Pages to Review
Received during reporting period	2	0	0	0
Outstanding from the previous reporting period	0	0	0	0
Total	2	0	0	0
Closed during the reporting period	2	0	0	0
Carried over to next reporting period	0	0	0	0

# 6.2 Recommendations and completion time for consultations received from other Government of Canada institutions

	Nι	Number of Days Required to Complete Consultation Requests								
Recommendation	1 to 15 Days	16 to 30 Days	31 to 60 Days	61 to 120 Days	121 to 180 Days	181 to 365 Days	More Than 365 Days	Total		
Disclose entirely	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2		
Disclose in part	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Exempt entirely	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Exclude entirely	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Consult other institution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Total	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2		

# 6.3 Recommendations and completion time for consultations received from other organizations

	Νι	Number of Days Required to Complete Consultation Requests							
Recommendation	1 to 15 Days	16 to 30 Days	31 to 60 Days	61 to 120 Days	121 to 180 Days	181 to 365 Days	More Than 365 Days	Total	
Disclose entirely	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Disclose in part	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

Exempt entirely	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Exclude entirely	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Consult other institution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## Section 7: Completion Time of Consultations on Cabinet Confidences

#### 7.1 Requests with Legal Services

	Fewer Ti	han 100	101-50	0 Pages	501-1	000	1001-5000		More Than 500	
	Pages Pro		Proc	essed	Pages Pr				Pages	
Number of	of Request	Pages Disclos	Numbe	Pages Disclose	Number of	Pages Disclose	of Request		Number	Pages Disclos
	Request s	ed	r of	d	Requests	d	request s	d	of	ed
Days	3	eu	Reque	u	Nequests	u	3	u	Reques	Gu
1 to 15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16 to 30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31 to 60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
61 to 120	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
121 to 180	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
181 to 365	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
365	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## 7.2 Requests with Privy Council Office

	Fewer Than 100 Pages Processed				501-1000 Pages Processed		1001-5000 Pages Processed		Processed	
Number of Days	Number of Request	Pages Disclos ed	Numbe rof Reque	Disclose	Number of Requests	Pages Disclose d	Number of Request	Disclose	Number of Reques	Pages Disclos ed
1 to 15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16 to 30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31 to 60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
61 to 120	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
121 to 180	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
181 to 365	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
365	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## Section 8: Complaints and investigations

Section 32 Notice of intention to investigate	Subsection 30(5) Ceased to investigate	Section 35 Formal representations	Section 37 Reports of finding received	Section 37 Reports of finding containing recommendations issued by the Information Commissioner	Section 37 Reports of finding containing orders issued by the Information Commissioner
0	0	0	0	0	0

#### **Section 9: Court Action**

#### 9.1 Court actions on complaints received before June 21, 2019 and on-going

Section 41 (before June 21, 2019)	Section 42	Section 44
0	0	0

#### 9.2 Court actions on complaints received after June 21, 2019

Section 41 (after June 21, 2019)					
complainant (1	Institution (2)	Third Party (3)	Privacy Commissioner (4)	Total	
0	0	0	0	0	

#### Section 10: Resources Related to the Access to Information Act

#### **10.1 Costs**

Expenditures	Amount	
Salaries		\$23,409
Overtime		\$0
Goods and Services		\$6,395
Professional services contracts	\$6,395	
• Other	\$0	
Total		\$29,804

#### 10.2 Human Resources

Resources	Person Years Dedicated to Access to Information Activities
Full-time employees	0.15
Part-time and casual employees	0.00
Regional staff	0.00
Consultants and agency personnel	0.01
Students	0.00
Total	0.16